

Amendments to the Claims

1. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 further comprising, after operation (3), converting the multimedia item's modality into the desired modality.

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the [[the]] one or more media resources are one or more resources of a network or terminal to which the multimedia item is provided in the desired modality.

3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the content value specifications are obtained from content value curves and scale factors for said modalities.

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein operation (3) comprises:

obtaining conversion boundaries using the content value curves and scale factors for the modalities; and

determining the desired modality using the conversion boundaries.

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the conversion boundaries are resource values at which the content value curves associated with overlapping ~~ranges~~ sets intersect with each other.

6. (original) The method according to claim 3, wherein each of the content value curves is obtained by combining content value curves that are measured according to two or more different qualities.

7. (previously presented) An apparatus for performing the method of claim 12.

8. (previously presented) An apparatus for performing the method of claim 1.

9. (currently amended) An apparatus for performing the method of claim [[19]] 2.

10. (previously presented) An apparatus for performing the method of claim 13.

11. (currently amended) An apparatus for performing the method of claim [[14]] 3.

12. (currently amended) In a system for processing multimedia contents, a method for selecting a desired modality from a plurality of modalities each of which is adoptable by

a multimedia item as an alternative to any other modality of the plurality of modalities, the desired modality being for adopting the multimedia item to one or more media resources, the method comprising:

(1) for each said modality, obtaining a content value specification associated with a range set of one or more resource values each of which is a value of the one or more media resources, the content value specification providing a content value for each of said one or more resource values in the associated range set, wherein the ranges sets associated with at least two of the modalities overlap;

(2) obtaining a resource value v1 belonging to at least two of the ranges sets; and

(3) selecting the desired modality from the modalities whose associated ranges sets contain the resource value v1, the desired modality being selected using the content value specifications of the modalities whose associated ranges sets contain the resource value v1.

13. (currently amended) In a system for processing multimedia contents, a method for building an overlap content model for a multimedia item which is available in any one of a plurality of alternative modalities, the overlap content model being for providing a desired modality from the plurality of modalities in response to a resource value which is a value of one or more media resources, the method comprising:

(1) for each said modality, obtaining a content value specification associated with a range set of one or more resource values each of which is a value of the one or more media resources, the content value specification providing a content value for each of said one or more resource values in the associated range set, wherein the ranges sets associated with at least two of the modalities overlap;

(2) determining, from the content value specifications, sub-ranges sub-sets of said ranges sets, wherein for each sub-range said sub-set, one of the content value specifications provides a maximum content value for each resource value in the sub-range sub-set, wherein the modality associated with said one of the content value specifications is the desired modality for each resource value in the sub-range sub-set;

wherein at least one of the ~~sub-ranges~~ sub-sets includes a resource value belonging to at least two of said ~~ranges~~ sets.

14. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein for each modality, the associated content value specification is a scaled content value specification equal to a product of a preliminary content value specification and a scale factor, and operation (1) comprises obtaining the preliminary content value specifications and the scale factors.

15. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein at least two content value specifications associated with sets containing the resource value v1 provide respective different content values for the resource value v1, and the desired modality is associated with the content value specification which provides the greatest content value for the resource value v1.

16. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein operation (2) comprises determining boundary resource values which are resource values at which at least two content value specifications provide equal content values, said boundary resource values comprising one or more boundaries of one or more sub-sets.

17. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein for each modality, the associated content value specification is a scaled content value specification equal to a product of a preliminary content value specification and a scale factor, and operation (1) comprises obtaining the preliminary content value specifications and the scale factors.

18. (new) The method of claim 13 wherein at least one said content value specification is obtained by combining quality specifications associated with respective different qualities, each quality specification providing, for each resource value in the associated set, a content value based on the respective quality.

19. (new) The method of claim 18 wherein for at least said one content value specification, the associated quality specifications are scaled quality specifications, and said one content value specification is obtained from a sum of the scaled quality specifications.